



**Other considerations:**

Applying manure to alfalfa has several advantages. Alfalfa provides a significant amount of available cropland for spreading manure through-out the summer months. Alfalfa removes/requires relatively high rates of nutrients and can benefit from the secondary and micronutrients as well as the primary nutrients in manure. Environmentally, alfalfa will preferentially use available N, up to 300 lb. N/acre/year, rather than symbiotically-fixing N, and because of its deep root system, can extract mobile nutrients (N, S, and B) at greater depths than corn.

A challenging exercise would be to review all nutrient management plans to calculate the amount of manure applied to alfalfa fields in Kewaunee County.

Soybeans absorb significant amounts of nitrogen from manure. Soybeans are not only very good at searching for P and K in the soil they are also very good at using up excess nitrogen. A soybean crop usually removes more nitrogen and potash than a comparable corn crop.

WDNR has permits for 15 livestock operations (14 dairies and 1 beef) in Kewaunee County. There are no pending applications for new CAFO's in Kewaunee County at this time.

A final acknowledgement is that Kewaunee County produced manure is applied to farm land in Brown, Door and Manitowoc counties, and manure is applied to Kewaunee County farmland from farms in these counties. This exchange of manures across county lines would infer that the total manure mass produced in a specific county is not necessarily applied in that same county. Thus, in any given year, it would be possible to have a manure production total which is greater than a manure utilization total for that same county. However, that is not the case in Kewaunee County currently.

Data generated from:

- 2013 Wisconsin Agricultural Statistics
- UW-Extension Nutrient and Pest Management Program-Nutrient Management Fast Facts (1/13)
- 2012 USDA Census of Agriculture
- SnapPlus Nutrient Management Planning Software